Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh	Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow
Sher-I-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Soura, Srinagar.	Govt. Arignar Anna Memorial Cancer Hospital, Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu
Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Manipur, Imphal	

Popularising Ayurveda

576. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's plan to expand and popularize Ayurveda in the country is not up to the expectations of the people;

(b) the Centre's budget allocation for the purpose and actual utilization thereof during the last three years ending 31st March, 2007, year-wise; and

(c) the reasons for the shortage of Ayurvedic doctors under the CGHS in Delhi and elsewhere and the poor availability of medicines under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The budget allocation and utilization for Ayurveda in last three years is as follows:

(*Amount in Crores*)

Year	Budget Allocation (BE)	Actual utilization & Final Grant
2004-2005	65.29	83.64
2005-2006	107.32	70.73
2006-2007	94.03	82.39

(c) The shortage of Ayurvedic doctors is due to the fact that selection of Ayurvedic doctors being made by the UPSC has been delayed on account of litigation. As regards Ayurvedic medicines, there has been no shortage of medicines. However, if any medicine is not available in any dispensary, the same is provided to patients by purchasing from local chemists appointed for the purpose.

Metal contents in Ayurvedic Medicines

577. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian traditional medicines contain more toxic materials and due to this some countries have refrained their people from buying the same;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for higher toxic content in the Indian traditional medicines;